

CABINET

16 October 2018

LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD (LRLSCB) ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18

Report of the INDEPENDENT CHAIR OF THE LRLSCB

Strategic Aim:	Creating a brighter future for all	
Key Decision: No	Forward Plan Reference: FP/1708/18	
Exempt Information	No	
Cabinet Member(s) Responsible:	Councillor Richard Foster, Portfolio Holder for Safeguarding Children and Young People	
Contact Officer(s):	Simon Westwood, Independent Chair of the LRLSCB	Tel: 0116 305 7130 sbbo@leics.gov.uk
	Dr Tim O'Neill, Director for People and Deputy Chief Executive	Tel: 01572 758307 toneill@rutland.gov.uk
Ward Councillors	N/A	

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That Cabinet:

1. Notes the draft Annual Report and makes any comments for amendment to be considered by the Independent Chair of the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Cabinet of the key findings of the Annual Report 2017/18 for the Leicestershire and Rutland Local Safeguarding Children Board (LRLSCB). The report will be finalised by the LRLSCB at its meeting on 12 October 2018 and subsequently published.

2 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 2.1 The LRLSCB is a statutory body established by Section 13 of the Children Act 2004 and currently operates under statutory guidance issued in Working Together 2015. It is a requirement that the Board produce an Annual report regarding its work and report it to the Leader of the Council together with the Chief Executive of the local authority, the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board, and the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable.
- 2.2 Under the Children and Social Work Act 2017, LSCBs are due to cease and local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements will be established in line with statutory guidance issued in Working Together 2018. Until multi-agency safeguarding arrangements are in place LSCBs will continue to function under current statutory guidance.
- 2.3 The Annual Report provides a full assessment of performance on the local approach to safeguarding children in line with the requirements of the legislation and statutory guidance.
- 2.4 The key purpose of the Annual Report is to assess the impact of the work undertaken in 2017/18 on service quality and on safeguarding outcomes for children in Leicestershire and Rutland. Specifically it evaluates performance against the priorities that were set out in the LRLSCB Business Plan for 2017/18.
- 2.5 The draft Annual Report can be found at Appendix A to this report, and includes:
- (i) A foreword from the Independent Chair;
 - (ii) A summary of the work and findings of the Board during the year;
 - (iii) An overview of the Board's governance and accountability arrangements and local context;
 - (iv) Two separate outlines of safeguarding performance, activity and outcomes for Leicestershire and Rutland;
 - (v) Analysis of performance against the key priorities in the 2017/18 Business Plan;
 - (vi) An overview of the Board's work on engagement, assurance, learning and development and training;
 - (vii) The challenges ahead including the Business Development Plan Priorities for 2018/19.

3 KEY MESSAGES

- 3.1 The key messages from the LRLSCB for the specific attention of the County Council's Cabinet are:
- a) Workers and agencies work well together to safeguard children in Rutland.
 - b) Notable reductions in referrals to social care and children on child protection plans need to be further understood.

- c) Understanding of Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks and the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) needs to be improved within the voluntary and community sector.
- d) Consistency of practice remains an area for improvement.
- e) The Board will continue to challenge and drive improvement in safeguarding of children, preparing for the changes in legislation which will require the establishment of new safeguarding arrangements by 2019 led by three statutory partners; the local authorities, the clinical commissioning groups for the area and the police.

4 CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The annual report includes a summary of the consultation and engagement work the LSCB has carried out with children and young people and with practitioners.
- 4.2 All members of the LRLSCB and their Executive have had opportunities to contribute to and comment on drafts of the Annual Reports.
- 4.3 The Annual Report is being presented to a range of forums including the Cabinets, Adults Scrutiny Panels or Committees and the Health and Well-Being Boards in both local authority areas.

5 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 5.1 The Annual Report is a retrospective report. Any amendments to the report put forward by the Cabinet will be considered by the Independent Chair of the LSCB

6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no resource implications arising from this report, as this is a retrospective report. The LRLSCB operates within a budget to which partner agencies contribute.
- 6.2 Rutland County Council contributes £52,250 to the costs of the LRLSCB (of a total budget of £240,263 in 2018/19).
- 6.3 Following anticipated funding reductions and agreement with Board partners the Board budget for 2018/19 no longer includes funding for Serious Case Reviews (or Safeguarding Adults Reviews for the SAB). These are to be funded through the reserves of the Safeguarding Boards. The reserves are sufficient to cover current reviews underway. The Board has agreed that any additional costs would be covered proportionally by safeguarding partners.
- 6.4 The budget requirement for future years will be considered in the work to agree new multi-agency arrangements for safeguarding children and parallel consideration of safeguarding adults board support arrangements.

7 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 The LRLSCB is a statutory body. Local authorities have a duty to ensure that the Board is enabled to operate effectively.
- 7.2 Under the Children and Social Work Act 2017, LSCBs are due to cease and local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements will be established in line with statutory

guidance issued in Working Together 2018. Until multi-agency safeguarding arrangements are in place LSCBs will continue to function under current statutory guidance.

- 7.3 It is a requirement of Working Together 2015 (Government guidance on inter-agency working on children's safeguarding) to submit the Annual Reports to the Leader of the Council, and it has been deemed good practice to consult on the Business Plans since these form the core of the annual reporting process. In addition, the Cabinet has always been included in this reporting.

8 DATA PROTECTION IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 A Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) has not been completed for the following reasons. The LSCB has an Information Sharing Agreement and operates in line with the Data Protection Act and General Data Protection Requirements. All information is shared for safeguarding processes and appropriate controls are in place to ensure data security.

9 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 Safeguarding children, young people and adults concerns individuals who are likely to be disadvantaged in a number of ways. Information on differing needs of, and impacts on different groups of individuals with regard to safeguarding is considered as part of the process to develop the Board's Business Plan. Specific impacts on or views of different groups is also considered in the work of the LRLSCB and LRSAB Safeguarding Effectiveness Group (SEG) in assessing performance and effectiveness with regard to safeguarding.

10 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 There is a connection between the work of the LRLSCB and that of the Safer Rutland Partnership. The Boards work with community safety partnerships to scrutinise and challenge performance in community safety issues that affect the safeguarding and well-being of individuals and groups e.g. Domestic Abuse, CSE and Prevent. The LSCB and SAB also support the community safety partnership in carrying out Domestic Homicide Reviews and acting on their recommendations.

11 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Health and care needs can be linked to safeguarding risk for adults and children and health and care practitioners can have opportunities to identify and respond to safeguarding risk not available to workers in other agencies.
- 11.2 The Annual Report for 2017/18 incorporates performance and analysis regarding areas within priority health workstreams, including emotional health and well-being and mental health. The Annual Report has been presented to the Rutland Health and Wellbeing Board.

12 CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 12.1 The Local Safeguarding Children Board has produced its Annual Report for 2017-18 assessing and analysing the activity and performance of the Board and partner

agencies regarding safeguarding children. This Annual Report is presented to Cabinet for their information and input.

13 BACKGROUND PAPERS

13.1 There are no additional background papers to the report.

14 APPENDICES

14.1 Appendix A – LRLSCB Annual Report – 2017/18

A Large Print or Braille Version of this Report is available upon request – Contact 01572 722577.

